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Southwest Ecodistrict Plan Released for Public Comment

By James Duncan-Welke

he National Capital Planning Commission released the draft of the "SW Ecodistrict Plan" for public comment on July 12, 2012. It is the first major product of the Southwest Ecodistrict Initiative, a joint effort of 17 federal and district agencies led by the Commission which is billed as "a comprehensive effort to transform a 15-block federal precinct just south of the National Mall into a showcase of sustainable urban development." The Commission anticipates approving the draft plan in January 2013.

The proposed ecodistrict is a roughly triangular area with one side extending along Independence Avenue from Fourth Street to 12th Street and another side running down 12th Street from Independence Avenue to Maine Avenue and Banneker Circle. The third leg runs from Banneker Circle towards the Museum of the American Indian, following first Ninth Street, then I-395, then Seventh, D, Sixth, C, and Fourth streets in a "step" pattern. This area encompasses the headquarters of U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement, the U.S. Postal Service, and the departments of Energy, Education and Housing and Urban Development; and facilities



Photo: National Capital Planning Commission

The SW Ecodistrict in 2030.

housing portions of the General Services Administration, the Department of Transportation and the Department of Homeland Security, among others.

One of the areas the plan proposes significantly altering is 10th Street SW, which

runs between Smithsonian Castle and Banneker Circle and is commonly referred to as the "L'Enfant Promenade." Currently an unadorned roadway which sees little activity in the evening or on weekends, 10th Street is re-imagined as a tree-lined boulevard which would run from a

redesigned Banneker Park past the repurposed Postal Service headquarters with unobstructed views of Smithsonian Castle. The plan recommends demolishing and replacing the Department of Energy's Forrestal Building.

In addition to 10th Street, the plan proposes the construction of several new buildings, some on decking over I-395 between Ninth Street and 12th Street and others on the current site of the Forrestal Building. The plan does not suggest eliminating the area's federal presence, however; federal agency headquarters would move north toward the National Mall, allowing the southern section of the ecodistrict to focus more on mixed-use, possibly residential buildings. The plan also suggests restoring the length of Maryland Avenue, adding a southern entrance to the L'Enfant Plaza Metro station, and providing a designated location for tour bus parking. Banneker Circle might eventually house a museum.

For more information and an opportunity to view and comment on the draft plan, visit www. ncpc.gov/swecodistrict. The public comment period runs until Sept. 10, 2012.

James Duncan-Welke is The Southwester's editor-in-chief.

Affordable Rental Housing at The Wharf Phase 1

By Ruth Hamilton

ne of the most important community benefits coming from the development of the SW Waterfront — The Wharf – is a substantial amount of new affordable rental housing. As part of its Land Disposition Agreement with the District of Columbia, Hoffman-Madison Waterfront (HMW) agreed to provide 160,000 square feet of affordable housing for households earning 30% and 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI) – half of the affordable housing for each income tier. For 2012, the AMI for a family of four is \$107,508, a number updated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on an annual basis (see chart below).

The rents will be set at a level to assure that the tenants pay no more than 30% of the income level for their particular AMI (30% or 60%) for housing costs.

In Phase 1 of the development, which is expected to break ground in the first quarter

Eligible Incomes for Affordable Rental Housing at The Wharf – 2012 Data				
-	30% AMI	60% AMI		
Family of 4	\$32,252	\$64,505		
Family of 3	\$29,027	\$58,054		
Family of 2	\$25,802	\$51,604		
Family of 1	\$22 577	\$45 153		

of 2013 for delivery in 2016, HMW will build three residential rental buildings that will include over 96,000 square feet of affordable rental housing. In addition to the affordable units, the rental buildings will also include workforce and market rate units. The chart above shows the rental housing mix in Phase 1; the unit mix may change slightly but the total square footage for the affordable units will be no less than 96,000 gross square feet:

The Community Benefits Coordinating Council and other Southwest organizations and

	Parcel 2A	Parcel 2B	Parcel 4A
30% AMI	30	21	18
60% AMI	30	21	18
Total Affordable Units	60	42	36
Workforce	33	22	24
Market	199	138	108

residents have asked Hoffman-Madison Water-front to give preferences to ANC6D residents. Hoffman-Madison Water-front has committed to doing so, to the extent permissible by law, and the CBCC will work out with them, starting in the fall after the PUD Stage 2 for Phase 1 is completed, how such preferences might work.

Those who would like to start planning for life in the new rental housing coming to The Wharf are encouraged to contact Ruth Hamilton, CBCC, rwh@westminsterdc.org, or Elinor Bacon, HMW, who is leading the affordable housing program for The Wharf: ebacon@erbacondevelopment.com, to get the most up-to-date information. Interested parties can also sign up on the HMW website, www.dcwharf.com, to express your interest in such housing to the developer directly and find additional details on the project. All the documents presented to the Zoning Commission, as well as other information related to the development, are posted there.





Photo: Meg Brinckman

A new ramp makes the school more accessible.

Amidon-Bowen Renovation On Schedule

By Meg Brinckman

midon-Bowen Elementary School's renovation is on schedule for opening day, Aug. 27. Working against the deadline of teachers returning to their classrooms by Aug. 20 and school opening on Aug. 27, real progress is being made in the major interior renovation of Amidon-Bowen.

The ramp that will allow easy access to persons with limited mobility, as well as the rest of us, is nearing completion and many interior walls have been demolished and are in the process of being reconfigured into new, larger classrooms and offices. A major renovation of the playground is planned in the near future.

Assistant Principal Dwayne Ham reports that new and exciting programs in languages are in

See "Renovation," page 6







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Highlights of ANC 6D Meeting

By B. K. Lunde

offman-Madison, developers of The Wharf project along the waterfront in Southwest DC, gave a presentation to the Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6D. They showed their plans for the new St. Augustine Episcopal Church, the apartment building south of it, and the Waterfront Park at the ANC meeting July 9.

The apartment building is four stories tall. However, offices, residential and theater buildings to be built between the Fish Market and Seventh Street along the waterfront were presented earlier. These are 12-story buildings with penthouses, 146 feet tall, covering most of the area.

The DC Zoning Commission will meet July 23 and 31 at 6:30 p.m. at 441 Fourth St. NW, by the south Judiciary Square Metro station exit, for hearings on the development. The public is invited to attend and testify.

Our ANC will have a special meeting at 7 p.m. July 25 at 1100 Fourth St. SW, in the second floor conference room, to formulate its position on The Wharf. The next regular meeting of the ANC is Sept. 10 in the same place.

The Nationals team has been having a great season. There was standing room only on July 3. They had an agreement with the city to use unoccupied land for up to 3775 parking places. This agreement expired this year. They asked the ANC to write a letter to the city endorsing their

request for a five-year extension. They hope that, when the area around the park is developed in office buildings with underground parking, they can arrange to lease the spaces during games and provide enough parking. They do promote using public transit to get to the games. The ANC agreed, six to none, to support them.

Lansburgh Park will show free movies on Aug. 13 and Sept. 10, beginning at 8:30.

Our ANC agreed to write a letter of support for a Community Garden at Lansburgh Park. It will be smaller than the proposed dog park, but it will have 40 or 50 plots for individual gardeners. Amidon school students have been gardening on the St. Matthews lot on M Street.

The ANC also agreed to write a letter of support for The Southwest Unity Forum Group to provide a program celebrating Summer in Lansburgh Park on Aug. 25 from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. About 1500 participants are expected. Horse rides, bingo, and a battle of Southwest Disc Jockeys will be among the attractions.

The ANC commissioners authorized Cara Shockley to represent them at the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on The Wharf.

The commissioners supported closing some of the streets of Southwest for the Navy Air Force Half Marathon and Navy 5-Miler race and the So Others May Eat walk. Several of these come up at each meeting. The Southwest is cut off by these events.

Highlights of June PSA 105 Meeting

By John McGrath

June 21, 2012, 7-8:30 p.m., Greenleaf Seniors Building, 1200 Delaware Ave. SW.

Participants: Sgt. Michael Architzel and Officers Vogel and Smith, PSA 105; Naomi Monk and Irv Gamza, PSA 105 meeting coordinators/facilitators and John McGrath, recorder; Special Guests: Ward 6 Councilman Tommy Wells and his staff; ANC Commissioners Ron McBee (6D03) and Roger Moffatt (6D05) and Assistant U.S. Attorney, Doug Klein. A total of 48 persons were in attendance.

- 1. Sgt. Architzel reviewed the crime statistics for PSA 105 for the first six months of CY 2012 versus 2011. Violent crime is down significantly (-18.5% overall) and property crime, excepting Theft from Auto, is down (-6.4% overall). Sgt. Architzel stressed the attention police are giving to crime "hot spots" and coverage of Nationals' ball games among other priorities within available resources on each shift. He stressed calling 911 for all suspicious activity including youths that may be carrying a concealed weapon as discussed at this meeting.
- 2. A spokesperson for Greenleaf Seniors expressed concerns about sporadic gunfire in the neighborhood (Syphax and James Creek were specifically cited) and other problems with teenagers and young adults who cause disturbances as well as participate in actual shootings (a shot was fired through a 7th floor window of the Seniors building). Greenleaf

Seniors asked the police for more foot patrols. They also reported improvements in internal security and safety at the Greenleaf Senior Center compared to prior years. They also asked Councilman Tommy Wells for more funds for senior events and transportation services to senior events.

- 3. Councilman Tommy Wells addressed audience concerns including: (a) more funding for added police resources in FY 2012 and FY 2013; (b) funding for local park improvements, e.g., lighting and repairs to pavilions in Lansburgh Park; (c) more attention, with the support of ANC 6D, to removing sidewalk obstructions for residents in wheelchairs and the handicapped; and (d) consideration of alternative uses of available funds to support senior programs along with funds for playground additions/improvements. Councilman Wells praised Lt. Nicholas Gallucci of PSA 105 for outstanding crime fighting results and high case closure rates.
- 4. Other audience concerns included: (a) widespread sidewalk obstructions for the disabled including M Street near the Safeway store and along Delaware Avenue (other streets were also cited); (b) traffic enforcement problems at Fourth and M streets SW (illegal left turns onto M Street), Third and M streets SW (blocking the box) and several choke points along South Capitol Street; (c) problems with nonresident parking on M Street SW between Sixth and Fourth streets all day.

From The Southwester Staff

This July was so hot it's a wonder anyone got anything done - but despite the heat, our

Southwester

Circulation 12,000

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To contact the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Inc., please leave a message at 202-580-8188. contributors came through with another month of news, features and community events. Thank you all; we couldn't put this paper together without you! But one story in this month's paper almost slipped under our radar. Just hours after our submission deadline, we found out that the National Capital Planning Commission had released its draft SW Ecodistrict Plan for public comment. We would be remiss in our duty as Southwest's newspaper of record if we didn't report on this far-ranging plan to renovate much of the Southwest quadrant north of I-395, so we pulled together an article. More information can found online at www.ncpc.gov/swecodistrict.

Have you visited thesouthwester.com yet? Many of this issue's stories were made available online before they were published in hard copy. Stop by the website and tell us what you think by sending an e-mail to editor@thesouthwester.com.

Also, please take a moment to look at our proposed Editorial Policy, which we have posted online, and which is being reviewed by the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Inc. (SWNA), under whose auspices the newspaper is published. Feedback is welcome and can be directed to editor@thesouthwester.com.

Last but not least, we'd like to welcome the newest member of our editorial staff on board. Over the course of the past few months we have had trouble retaining a copy editor so our layout editor, Paul Heaton, had been valiantly picking up the slack. Fortunately, we welcomed Joshua Weiss to the team in late June as our dedicated copy editor, so Paul can stop juggling two jobs. So a big welcome to Joshua (and an even bigger thank you to Paul)!

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Smith Center Workshops Celebrate Health and Wellness

By Alison Decker

his June, Westminster Presbyterian Church hosted a series of wellness workshops for the entire Southwest community. The free series, coordinated by Smith Center for Healing and the Arts, included a "Wellness Works!" kick-off event followed by three "Healthy U" workshops on Fitness, Nutrition and Stress Management.

Over 90 people took part in the Third Annual Wellness Works/Healthy U series, picking up tips for staying healthy in mind, body and spirit through interactive presentations by some of the DC area's leading health professionals.

The kick-off event on June 2 featured a powerful presentation on the health risks we currently struggle with as a nation, and in particular those faced by African-Americans. Guest speakers Drs. Marilyn Hughes-Gaston and Gayle K. Porter of the Gaston and Porter Health Improvement Center, Inc. captivated the audience with their inspirational call to action, challenging everyone

to truly take charge of their own health.

The energetic, positive atmosphere created by the keynote speech was sustained throughout the rest of the kick-off event as participants sampled fiber-filled smoothies, laughed and sweated their way through an upbeat exercise routine, and experimented with breathing and imagery techniques for stress management.

Thelma Jones, Smith Center Breast Care Navigator and the events' coordinator/emcee lauded the tone of the series, explaining: "The guest speakers and presenters were humorous and inspiring, and connected with the audience on a level that they could really understand and appreciate."

Presenters for each of the Healthy U workshops on the following three Saturdays in June took the time to explore their topics of expertise in greater depth, helping participants from 9 to over 80 years old try out yoga, healthier versions of favorite soul food recipes, and ways to monitor and relieve patterns of stress in their daily lives.

In addition to a significant turnout from the

neighborhood, the series was supported by volunteers and members from the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly as well as the World Bank - International Monetary Fund Staff African-American Association.

As for the impact the series has had on the community, Jones said, "I believe that the various participants, regardless of the number of sessions they attended, benefited enormously from the event and were engaged in the sessions from start to finish."

Smith Center for Healing and the Arts advocates for an integrative approach to health and wholeness for all people, combining the best of conventional and complementary health care for optimal wellness, prevention of illness, and the best possible experience in life.

Smith Center is a stand-alone cancer support center that remains dedicated to providing integrative health programs and resources for the DC community, offered year-round at the community center on U Street.

The Christ United Methodist Church Mildred B. Twitty Series presents

Inspirations
for a Sunday Afternoon:
David B. Whitley
in Concert

Sunday, September 9, 2012 4:00 pm

Christ United Methodist Church 900 Fourth Street, SW Washington, DC 20024

For more information, and to purchase tickets, please visit http://www.cumcdc.org/events

Admission \$20

(A service charge of .74 will be added to tickets purchased online)

Community Calendar

View our on-line calendar at www.swdc.org/calendar.

AUGUST

WED 8, 1 P.M. The Bubble Lady will amaze and amuse you with mind-blowing feats of bubblery. Southwest Neighborhood Library, 900 Wesley Place SW.

THURS 16, 4 P.M. Baba-C, A performance by a master storyteller, Southwest Neighborhood Library, 900 Wesley Place SW.

SAT 25, 1 P.M. Kitchen Table Book Discussion, Southwest Neighborhood Library, 900 Wesley Place SW. Copies of August selection "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot are available at the library.

WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY

AARP-SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT CHAPTER 4751, Third Wednesday of each month, except June,
July and August, River Park Mutual Homes community
room, 1311 Delaware Ave. SW. For information, contact
Chapter President Evelyn Dorsey, Dorseydear@aol.com
or 202-488-9685.

AYA COMMUNITY MARKETS, "a farmers market and holistic health experience," Saturdays Aug. 4-Nov. 17, Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth St. SW. Visit ayamarkets.org, call 202-332-1306. Provides resources for healthy and sustainable communities through farm-fresh produce, educational health speakers, live music, art, youth activities, and locally produced handmade crafts and baked goods.

JAZZ NIGHT IN SW, Fridays, 6-9 p.m. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye St. SW, Various Jazz musicians and singers featured each Friday. \$5. Food for sale.

BLUES MONDAYS, 6 - 9 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye St. SW, Various Blues musicians and singers featured each Monday. \$5. Food for sale.

CHILDREN'S ROOM PROGRAM - every Wednesday **Pajama Story Time**, 7 p.m., Southwest Neighborhood Library, 900 Wesley Place SW.

COMPUTER CLASSES, Southwest Neighborhood Library, 900 Wesley Place SW, Thursday, 10 a.m.-noon

AUG. 2 Introduction to Personal Computers

AUG. 9 No class

AUG. 16 Internet Basics

AUG. 23 DC Public Library Website

AUG. 30 Email Basics

FRIDAY FRIGHT FILMFEST SERIES, every Friday, 3-5 p.m., Southwest Neighborhood Library, 900 Wesley

Place SW (Teens and Adults)

AUG. 3 The Others

AUG. 10 The Ring **AUG. 17** The Witches

AUG. 24 The Wolfman

AUG. 31 Drag Me To Hell

MONDAY GAME NIGHT every Monday, 6:30pm-8:30pm Southwest Neighborhood Library, 900 Wesley Place SW. Teens and adults enjoy wide variety of board games.

HAND DANCING CLASSES, Jitterbug, Lindy Hop, Saturdays, noon-2 p.m. Classes by Markus Smith of Swing Anatomy Dance. \$10 per class for adults, \$5 per class for children 8-17. Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth SW, Community room off Wesley Place SW.

KIWANIS CLUB OF SOUTHWEST WATER-

FRONT, Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth St. SW, every first and third Monday from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye St. SW: 4 p.m. Seated Yoga and Healing Sessions (Pamela Wilson and Riva Wine); 5 p.m. Tai Chi (Manifest Ra); 5:30 p.m. Laughter Yoga (Claire Trivedi); 6:45 p.m. Sampoorna Yoga (Alex Rosen); 7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous SW Free-Way Meeting.

WEDNESDAY EVENING CHESS, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Southwest Neighborhood Library, 900 Wesley Place SW.

POLICE SERVICE AREA 105, Community meeting, every third Thursday, 7-8 p.m., location announced at previous meeting.

POLICE SERVICE AREA 106, Community meeting, every fourth Saturday, 10-11 a.m., PSA Community room, 900 Fifth St. SE.

PRE SCHOOL STORYTIME, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10-11:30 a.m., Southwest Neighborhood Library, 900 Wesley Place SW.

SOUTHWEST RENEWAL AA, Alcoholics Anonymous group, Mondays, 8:30 p.m., St. Augustine's Church, 600 M St. SW, 202-554-3222.

SW FREEWAY NA, Narcotics Anonymous group, Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye St. SW.

WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB, 7-9 p.m. first and third Wednesdays. Buy, trade and sell stamps Refreshments, auctions and programs. Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth St. SW. 202-

ZUMBA GOLD, 11 a.m.-noon. Fridays. Low-impact exercise/dance class for seniors, at King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N St. SW. Free.

Please submit calendar items by the 13th day of the preceding month to calendar@thesouthwester.com.





11 AM to 3 PM! \$25.00

CELEBRATE SUMMER AT THE WHARF

Enjoy August Along the Southwest Waterfront 7th Street Landing - 7th and Water Streets, SW

THURSDAYS: Farmers Market with Jazz and Blues: 6-8:30pm

August 2 Jacques Johnson Jazz Ensemble and Farmers Market

August 9 Lou Jerome Blues Band and Farmers Market

August 16 Big Joe & The Dynaflo and Farmers Market

Augus<mark>t 23 Bob Montgo</mark>mery J<mark>a</mark>zz Qu<mark>in</mark>tet an<mark>d Farmers Marke</mark>t

August 30 Eddie Jones & The Young Bucks and Farmers Market

FRIDAYS: Summer Sounds and Market: 6-8:30pm

August 3 Levi Stephens Band (Soul/Rock) & Market

August 10 Woodshedders (Bluegrass/Gypsy) & Market

August 17 Elby Brass (Funky Horns) & Market

August 24 Ashleigh Chevalier & Bruce Middle Trio (Jazz) & Market

August 31 Justin Trawick Group (Rock) & Market

SATURDAYS: Waterfront Workouts: 7-11am

August 4 Endurance Training (7am)

YaLa Fitness (9am) and Flow Yoga (10am)

August 11 Endurance Training (7am)

YaLa Fitness (9am) and Flow Yoga (10am)

August 18 Endurance Training (7am)

YaLa Fitness (9am) and Flow Yoga (10am)

August 25 Endurance Training (7am)

YaLa Fitness (9am) and Flow Yoga (10am

All August activities include table tennis and bean baggo. Refreshments served by King Ribs Bar-B-Q with Grillmaster Bufus and Capatin White's Seafood Shack. 7th Street Landing is a free WIFI hot spot. All musical entertainment and waterfront workouts are free and produced by Hoffman-Madison Waterfront. The Farmers Market is a collaboration of Neighborhood Restaurant Group, Churchkey, Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food and Agriculture, Star Catering, Diverse Markets Management and Jazz Night in Southwest. Summer Sounds at The Wharf is a collaboration of Cantina Marina, Diverse Markets Management and Gravatt Entertainment. Waterfront Workouts is a collaboration of Team to End AIDS Endurance Training Program, YaLa Fitness with Laurent Amzallag and Flow Yoga's Istar Guven.

The Wharf is a \$2 billion, world-class, mixed-use waterfront development by Hoffman-Madison Waterfront located on the historic Washington Channel, along the District of Columbia's Southwest Waterfront. Groundbreaking is scheduled for 2013 and the first phase of The Wharf will open in 2016. When complete, The Wharf will feature approximately three million square feet of new residential, office, hotel, retail, cultural, and public uses including waterfront parks, promenades, piers, and docks. More information is online at www.wharfdc.com. General information is available at 202-688-3590

Hoffman-Madison Waterfront Development Site Office 690 Water Street, SW Washington, DC 20024 The Wharf is within four blocks of the L' Enfant Plaza and Waterfront Metrorail stops.

Kathleen Turner Firing Up Arena Stage in 'Red Hot Patriot'

By Sheila Wickouski

creen star Kathleen Turner brings political icon Molly Ivins to the stage in Red Hot Patriot: The Kick-Ass Wit of Molly Ivins. The D.C. premiere kicks off Arena Stage's 2012/13 season, playing August 23 through October 28, 2012, in the Arlene and Robert Kogod Cradle.

Turner, who starred as Titania in Arena's 1981 production of A Midsummer Night's Dream, also participated in a tribute performance to Edward Albee in the Edward Albee Festival in 2011.

She is the ideal match for the crusader activist Ivins, known for her wit as well as her brutally

SKIN REJUVENATION

HYPERPIGMENTATION

honest work as a columnist who wrote about politicians, economic injustice and the threats to our freedoms.

Red Hot Patriot: The Kick-Ass Wit of Molly Ivins was written by twin sisters Allison and Margaret Engel, who both have extensive experience in politics and journalism.

This show is timed to open on the same schedule as the national presidential conventions and this is one ticket you don't want to miss. Tickets for Red Hot Patriot are available by visiting arenastage.org or calling the Arena Stage Sales Office at 202-488-3300.

Southwest residents can receive a discount for the Sept. 4 performance.

Southwest Nights at Arena

Arena Stage has announced the dates for Southwest Nights for the coming

Tickets are \$35 for musicals and \$25 for non-musicals, plus fees. Proof of Southwest D.C. residency or employment for each member of the party must be presented at the time of purchase. Tickets are limited to four per person and are based on availability.

Performance dates are:

- Red Hot Patriot, 7:30 p.m. Sept. 4
- One Night with Janis Joplin, 7:30 p.m.
- My Fair Lady, 7:30 p.m. Nov. 19
- Pullman Porter Blues, noon Dec. 26
- Good People, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 3
- Metamorphoses, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 17
- Mary T. & Lizzy K., 7:30 p.m. March
- The Mountaintop, 2 p.m. March 31
- Other Desert Cities, 7:30 p.m. May 26

For more information visit: www. arenastage.org/shows-tickets/singletickets/savings-programs/.

RENOVATION

the final planning stages. Two reading coaches are being hired to support the efforts to bring all children to their full potential. The excitement is building for a banner year.

Registrations are still being accepted. Call 202-724-4867 - the old office number - as soon as possible. Popular programs are filling up fast. You will reach familiar staff members who are housed at Jefferson Middle School for the summer. Plans are being made for a Sept. 8 celebration to introduce the new interior and entry area to the community.

WHARF PHASE 1

From p. 1

The CBCC is among the community groups that are active participants in The Wharf Development Advisory Group and its Community Benefits Committee and wants to hear from people interested in affordable or workforce homeownership opportunities, though the for sale affordable/workforce units won't be constructed until Phase 2.

Ruth Hamilton is chair of the Near SE/SW Community Benefits Coordinating Council (CBCC).

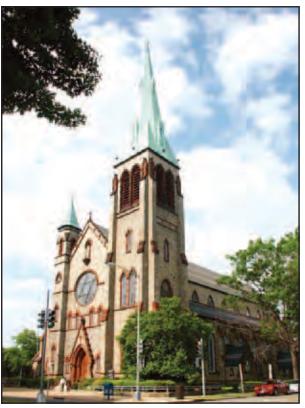
Correction

The July Southwester article, "Strasburg, Harper Dazzle Boston Sportswriters," was written by Dale MacIver, not Zev Feder. We apologize for the error.



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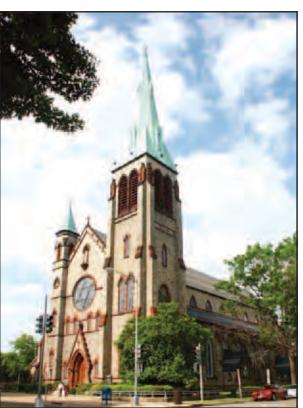
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The Dream Team is one of the teams representing Southwest.

Night Basketball Teams Compete at King-Greenleaf

Story and Photos by Dale MacIver

hree-point basketball shots are amazing the crowd evenings at King-Greenleaf Recreation Center at Canal/First Street near M Street SW.

Three weeks of young adult basketball under the lights are filling July evenings. Games start at 6 p.m., 7 p.m., 8 p.m., and 9 p.m., each Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday through July 28.

The tournament is called "We Own the Night." Six teams of Southwest men and one from another neighborhood are competing for trophies and bragging rights. The best players will be in citywide competition.

Standing room is available inside and outside the fence, and bleacher seats for several dozen fans make for busy community gatherings. The rec. center building itself is open until midnight with inside bleachers, washrooms and air conditioning.



Southwest D.C. natives Alvin Hudgens and Ronald Hines.

Helping at the scoring table at the outdoor basketball games are Alvin Hudgens (former SW Club #4 Director), left, and Coach Ronald (Horse) Hines, both of whom grew up in SW.

Dale MacIver is editor emeritus of The Southwester.



BMAD is one of the Southwest D.C. teams competing in the tournament.

Football Practice Starts at King-Greenleaf



Photo by Dale Maciver

Coaches have started working with Southwest youth from an early age, as this photo through the fence at the field shows.

Enjoy 'Summer in Lansburgh'

By Southwester Staff

The SouthWest Comm-Unity Forum presents "Summer in Lansburgh," a day full of activities, Aug. 25 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Events take place in Lansburgh Park, 1098 Delaware Ave. SW. Activities will include a skate mobile, games, exhibits, horseback riding, battle of the SW DJs and demonstrations.

Attendees are encouraged to bring tents, blankets and picnic baskets. Food will be available.

For information, contact Paul "South" Taylor at 202-340-4917.

Phillips Starts New "Crab Deck"

By Dale MacIver

A new entrance at the southeast corner of Phillips Seafood Restaurant, on Ninth and Water streets SW, is now open for customers. These employees attract customers with large balloons shaped like crabs.



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Notes on the Nats

Bryce Harper in 'The Moment'

By Zev Feder

his writer, as a young boy, loved a game we called "Running Bases." I couldn't get enough of it. I would enlist my dad and kid brother, my older sister, or anyone else I could charm or annoy into playing until they lost interest in it. It worked like this:

Minimum requirements: At least three people, one ball, and a short outdoor space suitable for running up and back.

(If this is a little slow-moving for you, stick with it. It gets better after I explain the game.)

Two of the players would be assigned or volunteer to be the basemen. Each would position themselves at their assigned base. Let's call it first base and second base. The bases could be an actual base, a drawn box, or a drawn line of any length.

All remaining players would be the runners. If more than one runner was playing at a time, a base line rather than a base or drawn box is preferable.

The runner or runners start the game by standing in the middle between the two basemen. The first-baseman will then throw the ball over the head(s) of the runner(s) to the second-baseman and the game is on. The object of the game for the runners is to either advance to second base or to safely return to first base without getting tagged by a baseman with the ball. For the basemen, the object is to tag the runner(s) while they are between bases.

As a boy, the game fascinated me and was a chance for me to practice - without anyone keeping records - making a quick judgment on when and where to run, and risking failure in order to have the rewards of success. Translation: When the second-baseman has the ball, move back towards first base and bait the second-baseman, who is then chasing you, into throwing the

ball. Then, precisely at the right moment, change direction and bolt back towards second base.

In baseball, my game is called a rundown. And as I grew up, and played more competitively, it was one thing I was good at.

The "Moment" of action, the moment you know is the exact split-second to commit and change direction or bolt towards success, is what you need to appreciate in order to understand Bryce Harper.

Bryce Harper, despite the multi-million dollar professional investment in him, plays and loves a child's game called baseball. FP Santangelo, Bob Carpenter's color-man during daily MASN broadcasts of Nats' games, likes to joke that Harper keeps running around the bases until he is tagged out. His joke, of course, is not to be taken literally but as a statement of appreciation for the aggressive and fearless way Harper makes an instantaneous decision to bolt towards the next base when given a split-second opportunity by a fielder's hesitation, poor approach to the ball, or complacency.

Fans at the games, as well as fans across the country, have been energized watching Bryce, knowing that at any point in the game a "Moment" may appear that ignites Bryce, to their delight. A steal of home against the Phillies when the pitcher did what is usually a routine pickoff attempt on the trailing runner on first. A single stretched into a double when the outfielder did not charge towards his base hit. And he did it again. And then again. Old school baseball reincarnated.

On one outing at the Mall this year Bryce was gracious enough to take a few swings with a group of slow-pitch softball players. I bet he would enjoy a good game of "Running Bases."

Zev Feder is a long-time Southwest resident with a life-long passion for baseball as a player, coach and, above all, fan.

Longtime Southwest resident: 'We're all just a part of Nationals Park'

By Lisa Edmunds

ans entering the Media Suites Lobby at Nationals Park are likely to come across Deborah Haynes, a guest experience representative who is known for welcoming guests with her signature statement, "alright now."

A native Washingtonian, Haynes has lived in the Southwest neighborhood for 24 years and feels a deep connection with the people who live and work in the community. As a longtime resident of Southwest D.C., Haynes recognizes the impact that Nationals Park has made on the area.

"The Nationals brought a lot of opportunities here with the opening of the ballpark in 2008," she said.



Photo courtesy of the Washington Nationals. Deborah Haynes helps guests at Nationals Park.

Haynes works alongside many of her neighbors, which she says creates a strong sense of community pride and is one of the many reasons she considers Nationals Park a second home.

"It doesn't matter what color shirt you have on, or what section you work for. When you come in we're all just a part of Nationals Park," she said.

Whether she's directing fans to different concession stands or showing guests how to get to their seats, Haynes enjoys her job and she is grateful for the opportunity to take on different responsibilities throughout the ballpark.

"Being a part of the Guest Services team is great because they make you feel special and let you know that you are making a difference in the park," she explained. "I understand that what I do is important and that makes me feel good."

Haynes has noticed that the Southwest community's interest in the Nationals has increased significantly due to the team's stellar start to the season. She sees more people in the neighborhood wearing Nationals merchandise and says it's clear that people in Southwest are proud of the team.

"The people in my neighborhood always stop and ask me if the team won," Haynes said. "I am excited to tell them if they win, but if not, I let them know that we will get them next time."



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